

STATE SENATOR • IRMA CLARK-COLEMAN • 3RD DISTRICT

Clark-Coleman Press Release

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STATE SENATE TO DECLARE “TOPS DAY” Motown’s Four Tops Honored for 50 Years of Music

(LANSING) – Half a century of making music that recorded the maturing of America has not been lost on State Senator Irma Clark-Coleman (D-Detroit) who on Wednesday, May 26, will honor Motown singing greats – the Four Tops – on their 50th anniversary. Sen. Clark-Coleman will present the group with an official resolution during that day’s Senate session, which begins at 10 a.m.

A product of Detroit’s North End, the Four Tops became one the most consistent vocal groups to emerge from Motown Records in the '60s, charting with scores of upbeat love songs and R & B hits. Levi Stubbs, Abdul "Duke" Fakir, Renaldo "Obie" Benson and Lawrence Payton first sang together at a friend’s birthday party in 1954. As the “Tops” the group still performs, giving the gift of music, but without Lawrence Payton who succumbed to liver cancer in 1997.

The three remaining Tops will be on hand to receive the resolution.

“There are no words to describe how the Tops have impacted the world,” Sen. Clark-Coleman said. “Through their music, we shared the winning and losing of love. We learned that commonality can be reached through song.”

The Tops’ 50-year celebration is one that very few entertainers can share. Talent, dedication and sheer love of music under scores the longevity of one of the most well-respected musical groups in history.

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State Sen. Irma Clark-Coleman represents the 3rd Senate District. She sits on the Banking & Financial Institutions, Education, Families & Human Services, and Senior Citizens & Veterans Affairs committees.